

## Guidelines for the Discernment and Preparation for Same Sex Blessings at St. Philip's Church

- 1) At least one person in the couple will be a Confirmed Communicant in Good Standing of St. Philip's Church.
- 2) This Communicant will have contributed to and participated actively in the life of the parish for at least one year before beginning discernment and preparation with a member of the parish clergy.
- 3) Participants in the discernment and preparation understand that the expectation of this church is that they are pursuing a relationship characterized by fidelity, monogamy, mutual affection and respect, and a holy love that enables the partners to see in each other the image of God and offer to the community the gifts of that love.
- 4) The clergy of St Philip's Church will provide the specific liturgy used in the rite. The Bishop of this diocese has given his approval for the use of this liturgy.
- 5) The judgment of the clergy will determine which relationships will have rites celebrated in the parish.

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*To be signed by both partners when discernment and preparation with the clergy begins:*

We understand and accept the guidelines and expectations set forth in this statement.

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Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date